



SENATOR

Rosemary McAuliffe

E-Newsletter - 1st District, Bothell

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1st Legislative District

December 14, 2009

Dear Neighbors,

I want to **invite all middle and high school students to the Youth Forum tomorrow night** at the University of Washington Bothell/Cascadia Community College (CCC) Campus. This is a great opportunity for me to touch base with the youth in our community about the most important issues of our time. Please see below for more detail.

I also wanted to update you on funding awarded to a local Innovation Partnership Zone, the opening of a new learning facility at CCC, the status of the state budget and the 2-1-1 number to call for state help.

As we move into the middle of the holiday season it is clear that many are still struggling, but equally many are lending a hand. This is so important.

Happy Holidays,

State Senator

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Students are invited to the 1st District Youth Forum tomorrow, Dec. 15

Middle and high school students are invited to share their thoughts about education and beyond with me at the annual 1st District Youth Forum.

As we are preparing for the 2010 legislative session amid a sobering outlook regarding the state's budget, I would love to hear from students about the WASL, school safety, technology and the economy and other topics they are interested in.

We spend so much time in committee discussing the future of our state's education system. I always look forward to speaking with youth in schools today about their perspective.

What: 1st District Youth Forum hosted by Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe

When: Tues., Dec. 15, 2009, 7–8:30 p.m.

Where: [Northcreek Events Center](#) at the University of Washington Bothell/Cascadia Community College Campus (18345 Campus Way NE, Bothell)

Parking: \$3 in the garage

For more information: Carolyn Schaefer, 360.786.7600, schaefer.carolyn@leg.wa.gov

Bothell receives funding for Innovation Partnership Zones

The Bothell business district has been building a name in ongoing medical device manufacturing and ultra sound research activities. Simultaneously, the University of Washington Bothell (UWB) has been working to establish the Biotechnology and Biomedical Technology Institute. Clearly there is an opportunity to train and employ residents for demanding fields right in our back yard.

In 2007 Gov. Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature created Innovation Partnership Zones (IPZ). IPZs empower regions to form partnerships between research entities, private sector partners and workforce training to collaborate and develop commercially viable technologies.

The Washington State Department of Commerce has awarded \$1.5 million in grants to three different IPZs.

I am proud to say [Bothell Biomedical Device IPZ](#) received \$500,000 for the Washington MedTech Discovery Center. The center will provide a dedicated public facility for incubating, networking, and providing meeting space for businesses in the bio-medical device industry.

This will support UWB's work to build a better business incubator with the City of Bothell and could help small companies get their products to market, a win-win situation!

For further information on IPZs contact: Terrie Battuello, City of Bothell, Asst. City Manager, terrie.battuello@ci.bothell.wa.us, 425.489.3387

Ribbon cutting at Cascadia Community College Global Learning and Arts Building

I recently spoke at the Cascadia Community College (CCC) Global Learning and Arts Building ribbon cutting. CCC opened its doors to the education community in August of 2000. Just as it took hard work and effort to get up and running, it has taken the same merit to evolve into the leading institution it is today.

The addition of the Global Learning and the Arts building will provide an additional 800 FTE for Snohomish County students and beyond.

Building the strength of higher education offered here will provide the workforce to fill open jobs in Washington state.

In my discussions with educators from across the state I hear how employers have to look outside our borders to fill positions. This is particularly true in engineering and science fields, because there's simply not enough local talent. I am encouraged IPZ funding will help to support this effort.

By expanding learning facilities at the CCC campus we are literally building a solution to this dilemma.

Since I moved to Bothell, our community has changed greatly, but has held onto its values. With CCC moving forward and expanding, our community is able to transmit knowledge, skills, and values from one generation to another.

Governor releases all cuts budget

This week Gov. Chris Gregoire released her proposal to close the state's \$2.6 billion budget gap and it's loaded with \$1.7 billion in program cuts. This comes on top of some \$4 billion in program cuts and public employee compensation changes that were made this spring.

It's important to remember that this is just the first of three proposals that will be released before a final version is adopted in March. The House and Senate will draft their own versions.

By law, the governor is required to release a budget proposal that does not contain new taxes. So aside from drawing down reserve accounts and education, construction, public works, environmental and other accounts, the plan relies on steep cuts that would appear to many of us to be unconscionable.

The cuts — there are 315 of them, though some are so general they will trigger hundreds more — are specified in the proposal and they're far too numerous to mention. But here's a taste:

Education, the single largest component of the state budget, gets hit hard as funding for rural school districts, class size reduction, K-4 student enhancement, gifted education and all-day kindergarten is wiped out for the next school year.

Our state's **colleges and universities** would lose \$89 million in funding, the state need grant for students would be cut by two-thirds, and work study would be suspended.

The state's **Basic Health Plan** for the working poor, and general assistance payments and medical coverage for those unemployable due to injury or mental illness, would be completely eliminated. Children's health coverage would be dramatically reduced. An array of services including maternity support, adult dental, vision, podiatry and hospice would be suspended.

Nine state institutions — **prisons and facilities for the developmentally disabled** — would be downsized or closed. More than 1,500 state employees would lose their jobs and others would see their health care costs rise dramatically.

There are many, many more cuts than can be mentioned here. And after all this, the state's budget reserve would be drawn down to a precariously low \$310 million.

The governor also said she will introduce a second budget in January that would include new revenue, such as new taxes or revenue savings by eliminating some tax exemptions, to buy back some programs being eliminated under this week's proposal.

Call 2-1-1 if you don't know where to go for help

You always have the option to call **2-1-1** if you don't know where to turn. This service exists to help direct you to the right help whether it's food, medical, health, mortgage etc.

Alternatively, you can look online at [Community Resources Online Database](#). This database contains over 5,480 health and human service providers, representing 9,450 sites and more than 16,980 local services available throughout Washington to help meet your needs. If you do not find the service you need, please dial 2-1-1 from anywhere in Washington to speak to specialist for assistance. Or, you can dial toll free 1-877-211-WASH (9274).

2-1-1 Information and Referral Specialists are available Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, excluding holidays.

I recently received some data from the 2-1-1 workers. There is a rapidly rising demand for Holiday food baskets and for holiday gifts. Here are the numbers of calls they handled from Snohomish County callers during November for the last three years:

Snohomish County

November	2007	2008	2009
Holiday Food Requests	231	173	611
Holiday Gift Requests	311	530	668

This serves as a reminder that there are many people really struggling today and we all need to help lend a hand. To find out how you can help visit the following website:

www.voaww.org/211